

07-27-04

RCE
1648
IFW

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See instruction Sheet for RCE's (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply with 3 attachments

ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. Other Petition and Fee for Extension of Time

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____

i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$1,244.00 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

d. If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0220

Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A., P. O. Box 37428, Raleigh, North Carolina 27627,
Telephone: (919) 854-1400, Facsimile: (919) 854-1401, Customer No. 20792

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Shawna Cannon Lemon	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	53,888
Signature		Date	July 26, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

Express Mail Label No. EV 472534561 US

Date of Deposit: July 26, 2004

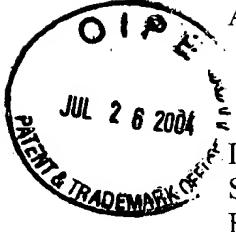
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Name (Print/Type)	Susan E. Freedman		
Signature		Date	July 26, 2004

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 Attorney Docket No. 9013-31

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Welch et al.
Serial No.: 09/889,645
Filed: January 24, 2002
For: TREATING PROTEIN-CONTAINING LIQUIDS

Confirmation No. 8639
Group Art Unit: 1648
Examiner: Ulrike Winkler

Date: July 26, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Sir:

Applicants provide the present Amendment, which accompanies a Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently herewith, to address the issues raised in the final Office Action dated February 24, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.